

Date: Thu, 8 Jul 93 04:30:18 PDT
From: Ham-Policy Mailing List and Newsgroup <ham-policy@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Ham-Policy-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Ham-Policy@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Ham-Policy Digest V93 #219
To: Ham-Policy

Ham-Policy Digest Thu, 8 Jul 93 Volume 93 : Issue 219

Today's Topics:

 Give a VE \$5.60, walk out with a ham license...
 Guide to the Personal Radio Newsgroups
 Lost petition for VHF/UHF beams (4 msgs)

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Ham-Policy@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Ham-Policy-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Ham-Policy Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/ham-policy".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 7 Jul 93 22:21:52
From: usc!elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!news.larc.nasa.gov!larry.larc.nasa.gov!
partos@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Give a VE \$5.60, walk out with a ham license...
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

I don't see your problem with assigning a temporary call to someone
who's successfully passed all requirements for a license. Why force
someone to wait 8-10 weeks just for the paperwork to slog its way
through the bureocracy? Is this just another example of "I had to do
it, so you do too"?

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|-----|
| Richard D. Partos KE4AZJ Norfolk, VA |
Internet: r.d.partos@larc.nasa.gov

Date: Wed, 7 Jul 1993 16:27:53 GMT
From: nevada.edu!news.unomaha.edu!news@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Guide to the Personal Radio Newsgroups
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

Posted-By: auto-faq 2.4
Archive-name: radio/personal-intro
Revision: 1.4 06/30/93 12:04:14
Changes: new rec.radio.amateur.* newsgroups, cs.utexas.edu gateway

(Note: The following is reprinted with the permission of the author.
Due to the recent reorganization, it is also on a temporarily-
accelerated posting schedule as follows:

July weekly
August bi-weekly
September back to monthly)

This message describes the rec.radio.amateur.*, rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.info, and rec.radio.swap newsgroups. It is intended to serve as a guide for the new reader on what to find where. Questions and comments may be directed to the author, Jay Maynard, K5ZC, by Internet electronic mail at jmaynard@oac.hsc.uth.tmc.edu. This message was last changed on 30 June 1993 to add the groups created during the latest reorganization vote and the description of the cs.utexas.edu gateway.

History
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Way back when, before there was a Usenet, the Internet hosted a mailing list for hams, called (appropriately enough) INFO-HAMS. Ham radio discussions were held on the mailing list, and sent to the mailboxes of those who had signed up for it. When the Usenet software was created, and net news as we now know it was developed, a newsgroup was created for hams: net.ham-radio. The mailing list and the newsgroup were gatewayed together, eventually.

As the net grew, and as packet radio came into vogue, packet discussion began to dominate other topics in the group and on the list. This resulted in the logical solution: a group was created to hold the packet discussion, and another corresponding mailing list was created as well: net.ham-radio.packet and PACKET-RADIO, respectively.

These two groups served for several years, and went through Usenet's Great Renaming essentially unchanged, moving from net.ham-radio[.packet] to rec.ham-radio[.packet]. Readership and volume grew with the rest of the network.

The INFO-HAMS mailing list was originally run from a US Army computer at

White Sands Missile Range, SIMTEL20. There were few problems with this arrangement, but one was that the system was not supposed to be used for commercial purposes. Since one of hams' favorite pastimes is swapping gear, it was natural for hams to post messages about equipment for sale to INFO-HAMS/rec.ham-radio. This ran afoul of SIMTEL20's no-commercial-use restriction, and after some argument, a group was created specifically for messages like that: rec.ham-radio.swap. This group wasn't gatewayed to a mailing list, thus avoiding problems.

While all this was happening, other folks wanted to discuss other aspects of the world of radio than the personal communications services. Those folks created the rec.radio.shortwave and rec.radio.noncomm newsgroups, and established the precedent of the rec.radio.* hierarchy, which in turn reflected Usenet's overall trend toward a hierarchical name structure.

The debate between proponents of a no-code ham radio license and its opponents grew fierce and voluminous in late 1989 and 1990. Eventually, both sides grew weary of the debate, and those who had not been involved even more so. A proposal for a newsgroup dedicated to licensing issues failed. A later proposal was made for a group that would cover the many recurring legal issues discussions. During discussion of the latter proposal, it became clear that it would be desirable to fit the ham radio groups under the rec.radio.* hierarchy. A full-blown reorganization was passed by Usenet voters in January 1991, leading to the overall structure we now use.

After the reorganization, more and more regular information postings began to appear, and were spread out across the various groups in rec.radio.*. Taking the successful example of the news.answers group, where informational postings from across the net are sent, the group rec.radio.info was created in December, 1992, with Mark Salyzyn, VE6MGS, initially serving as moderator.

In January, 1993, many users started complaining about the volume in rec.radio.amateur.misc. This led to a discussion about a second reorganization, which sparked the creation of a mailing list by Ian Kluft, KD6EUI. This list, which was eventually joined by many of the most prolific posters to the ham radio groups, came up with a proposal to add 11 groups to the rec.radio.amateur hierarchy in April 1993. The subsequent vote, held in May and early June, approved the creation of five groups: rec.radio.amateur.digital.misc (to replace .packet), .equipment, .homebrew, .antenna, and .space.

The Current Groups

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I can hear you asking, "OK, so this is all neat history, but what does it have to do with me now?" The answer is that the history of each group has a direct bearing on what the group is used for, and what's considered appropriate where.

The easy one is `rec.radio.amateur.misc`. It is what `rec.ham-radio` was renamed to during the reorganization. Any message that's not more appropriate in one of the other groups belongs here, from contesting to DX to ragchewing on VHF to information on becoming a ham.

The group `rec.radio.amateur.digital.misc` is for discussions related to (surprise!) digital amateur radio. This doesn't have to be the common two-meter AX.25 variety of packet radio, either; some of the most knowledgeable folks in radio digital communications can be found here, and anything in the general area is welcome. The name was changed to emphasize this, and to encourage discussion not only of other text-based digital modes, such as AMTOR, RTTY, and Clover, but things like digital voice and video as well. The former group, `rec.radio.amateur.packet`, has not been removed as of this writing, but it is obsolete, and you should use `.digital.misc` instead. The group has the `.misc` as part of the name to allow further specialization if the users wish it, such as `.digital.tcp-ip`.

The swap group is now `rec.radio.swap`. This recognizes a fact that became evident shortly after the original group was formed: Hams don't just swap ham radio gear, and other folks besides hams swap ham equipment. If you have radio equipment, or test gear, or computer stuff that hams would be interested in, here's the place. Equipment wanted postings belong here too. Discussions about the equipment generally don't; if you wish to discuss a particular posting with the buyer, email is a much better way to do it, and the other groups, especially `.equipment` and `.homebrew`, are the place for public discussions. There is now a regular posting with information on how to go about buying and selling items in `rec.radio.swap`; please refer to it before you post there.

The first reorganization added two groups to the list, one of which is `rec.radio.amateur.policy`. This group was created as a place for all the discussions that seem to drag on interminably about the many rules, regulations, legalities, and policies that surround amateur radio, both existing and proposed. The neverending no-code debate goes here, as does the New Jersey scanner law, the legality of ordering a pizza on the autopatch, what a bunch of rotten no-goodniks the local frequency coordinating body is, and so on.

The other added group is `rec.radio.cb`. This is the place for all discussion about the Citizens' Band radio service. Such discussions have been very inflammatory in `rec.ham-radio` in the past; please do not cross-post to both `rec.radio.cb` and `rec.radio.amateur.*` unless the topic is genuinely of interest to both hams and CBers - and very few topics are.

The `rec.radio.info` group is just what its name implies: it's the place where informational messages from across `rec.radio.*` may be found, regardless of where else they're posted. As of this writing, information posted to the group includes Cary Oler's daily solar propagation bulletins, ARRL bulletins, the

Frequently Asked Questions files for the various groups, and radio modification instructions. This group is moderated, so you cannot post to it directly; if you try, even if your message is crossposted to one of the other groups, your message will be mailed to the moderator, who is currently Mark Salyzyn, VE6MGS. The email address for submissions to the group is `rec-radio-info@ve6mgs.ampr.ab.ca`. Inquires and other administrivia should be directed to `rec-radio-request@ve6mgs.ampr.ab.ca`. For more information about `rec.radio.info`, consult the introduction and posting guidelines that are regularly posted to that newsgroup.

The groups `rec.radio.amateur.antenna`, `.equipment`, `.homebrew`, and `.space` are for more specialized areas of ham radio: discussions about antennas, commercially-made equipment, homebrewing, and amateur radio space operations. The `.equipment` group is not the place for buying or selling equipment; that's what `rec.radio.swap` is for. Similarly, the `.space` group is specifically about amateur radio in space, such as the OSCAR program and SAREX, the Shuttle Amateur Radio EXperiment; other groups cover other aspects of satellites and space. Homebrewing isn't about making your own alcoholic beverages at home (that's `rec.crafts.brewing`), but rather construction of radio and electronic equipment by the amateur experimenter.

The `rec.radio.amateur.misc`, `.packet`, and `.policy` groups, and the `rec.radio.info` group, are available by Internet electronic mail in digest format; send a mail message containing "help" on a line by itself to `listserv@ucsd.edu` for instructions on how to use the mail server. The `rec.radio.swap` group is not available for reading by electronic mail. At this writing, the most recently added groups are also not available for reading by electronic mail, although that may change.

All of the groups can be posted to by electronic mail, though, by using a gateway at the University of Texas at Austin. To post a message this way, change the name of the group you wish to post to by replacing all of the `'.'`'s with `'-'`'s - for example, `rec.radio.swap` becomes `rec-radio-swap` - and send to that name@cs.utexas.edu (`rec-radio-swap@cs.utexas.edu`, for example). You may crosspost by including multiple addresses as Cc: entries (but see below). This gateway's continued availability is at the pleasure of the admins at UT-Austin, and is subject to going away at any time - and especially if forgeries and other net.abuses become a problem. You have been warned.

A Few Words on Crossposting

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Please do not crosspost messages to two or more groups unless there is genuine interest in both groups in the topic being discussed, and when you do, please include a header line of the form "Followup-To: group.name" in your article's headers (before the first blank line). This will cause followups to your article to go to the group listed in the Followup-To: line. If you wish to have replies to go to you by email, rather than be posted, use the word

"poster" instead of the name of a group. Such a line appears in the headers of this article.

One of the few examples of productive cross-posting is with the rec.radio.info newsgroup. To provide a filtered presentation of information articles, while still maintaining visibility in their home newsgroups, the moderator strongly encourages cross-posting. All information articles should be submitted to the rec.radio.info moderator so that he may simultaneously cross-post your information to the appropriate newsgroups. Most newsreaders will only present the article once, and network bandwidth is conserved since only one article is propagated. If you make regular informational postings, and have made arrangements with the moderator to post directly to the group, please cross-post as appropriate.

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Jay Maynard, EMT-P, K5ZC, PP-ASEL | Never ascribe to malice that which can
jmaynard@oac.hsc.uth.tmc.edu | adequately be explained by stupidity.

"If my car ran OS/2, it'd be there by now" -- bumper sticker

GCS d++ p+ c++ l+ m+/- s/++ g++ w++ t+ r

--

73, Paul W. Schleck, KD3FU

pschleck@unomaha.edu

Celebrating 60 years of the Univ. of Maryland ARA - W3EAX (1933-1993)

Date: Wed, 7 Jul 1993 21:18:53 GMT

From: pa.dec.com!nntpd2.cxo.dec.com!nuts2u.enet.dec.com!little@decwrl.dec.com

Subject: Lost petition for VHF/UHF beams

To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

I'm not sure whether it is of interest or not but I was turned down in my petition to have my roof mounted antennas at 20' over my house instead of the permitted 10'. Ground mounted antennas would have limited me to about 30' above ground due to set back limitations, 1' setback for every 1' in height. 10' above my roof will put me at about 25' and 30' for my VHF/UHF beams. Such a staggering station as you'll have ever heard. If you hear me in the weak signal portions of 2 meter or 70 cm, give me shout. But yell loudly so I'll be able to hear you. :-(

73,
Todd
N9MWB

(nuts2u::little) writes:

>I'm not sure whether it is of interest or not but I was turned down in my
>petition to have my roof mounted antennas at 20' over my house instead of
>the permitted 10'. Ground mounted antennas would have limited me to about
>30' above ground due to set back limitations, 1' setback for every 1' in
>height. 10' above my roof will put me at about 25' and 30' for my VHF/UHF
>beams. Such a staggering station as you'll have ever heard. If you hear me
>in the weak signal portions of 2 meter or 70 cm, give me shout. But yell
>loudly so I'll be able to hear you. :-(
>N9MWB

I'm interested in what reasons were given by the folks that turned down the
request for not approving the 20 foot hieght.

73s

Bill Sohl (K2UNK) BELLCORE (Bell Communications Research, Inc.)
Morristown, NJ email via UUCP bcr!cc!whs70
201-829-2879 Weekdays email via Internet whs70@cc.bellcore.com

Date: Thu, 8 Jul 1993 07:26:41 GMT
From: pa.dec.com!nntpd2.cxo.dec.com!nuts2u.enet.dec.com!little@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: Lost petition for VHF/UHF beams
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

whs70@dancer.cc.bellcore.com (sohl,william h) writes:

>I'm interested in what reasons were given by the folks that turned down the
>request for not approving the 20 foot hieght.

No specific reason was given. The full village board will vote on Monday,
but since the Building, Planning, and Zoning commission that turned it down
unanimously last night is all the same people with one addition, the
village president (chairperson of the village beautification committee),
it's hard to see how they'll pass it then. I intend to ask at the full
village board the reason for denying the petition, although I suspect I
know. One or two of the comissioners made comments at the start of the
meeting that they believe "these sorts of things are an eyesore", etc.

At the comission meeting and at the zoning board of appeals meeting (which
had recommended approval of the special use petition) my neighbors banded
together and came up with every excuse in the book. Amateur radio
interferes with:

- telephones
- 911 calls

- business calls
- etc.
- televisions
- radios
- SIDs monitors
- baby monitors
- garage door openers
- Many more, too numerous to list

EMF causes cancer. Antennas blow over in strong winds and damage surrounding homes. Outdoor antennas weren't allowed in this development. They're a blight. They lower property values and marketability. They're a public nuisance. We have a petition signed by 300 homes. They invade our privacy.

Those are only the statements that I can remember. The comissioners never gave a reason, they just voted against approving the petition.

73,
Todd
N9MWB Exiled in snobsville, IL.

Date: Wed, 7 Jul 1993 12:04:16 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!
ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!newsrelay.iastate.edu!news.iastate.edu!IASTATE.EDU!
wjturner@network.UCSD.EDU
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

References <1993Jul6.194631.9311@Csl.Stanford.EDU>,
<C9rGAy.9KD@news.iastate.edu>, <1993Jul6.212152.12356@Csl.Stanford.EDU>g
Reply-To : wjturner@IASTATE.EDU (William J Turner)
Subject : Re: Give a VE \$5.60, walk out with a ham license...

In article <1993Jul6.212152.12356@Csl.Stanford.EDU>, paulf@Csl.Stanford.EDU
(Paul Flaherty) writes:

> In <C9rGAy.9KD@news.iastate.edu> wjturner@iastate.edu (William J Turner)
writes:
> >How? I didn't listen in that time.
>
> Hmmm, well, I suspect that you're in the minority then. Most people go out
> and buy a radio within a few days of passing the exam. I also urge my
> students to as well. Needless to say, this presupposes that one can buy
> radios without a license.

I may be, but that doesn't mean I *never* listened. I listened a lot in the 17
years (or at least the 12 or so I remember) before I took the test. Of course,

I am a third generation ham, which isn't all that common. Then again, I also didn't have to buy a radio. (Just an HT which I got as a present.)

--

```
Will Turner, N0RDV
wjturner@iastate.edu      | "Are you going to have any professionalism, |
twp77@isuvax.iastate.edu  | or am I going to have to beat it into you?" |
TURNERW@vaxld.ameslab.gov | -----
```

Date: Wed, 7 Jul 1993 18:47:14 GMT
From: agate!headwall.Stanford.EDU!Csli!paulf@ames.arpa
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

References <1993Jul6.194631.9311@Csli.Stanford.EDU>, <21d3l4INNpkq@topaz.bds.com>,
<1993Jul7.070634@IASTATE.EDU>
Subject : Re: Give a VE \$5.60, walk out with a ham license...

ron@topaz.bds.com (Ron Natalie) writes:

> It does no such thing. They're just as likely to not bother to even buy
> a radio until after their license comes in the mail. I would venture that
> most people who would listen before their license came are also the sort
> to have listened before they took the test. And there are certainly a large
> portion of amateurs who have been licensed ffor years and still don't know
> "how it's done."

All the more reason to insist on more listening. My experience has been that most hams buy the rig as soon as they can, and listen in until the ticket arrives. Your mileage may vary.

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-=>Paul Flaherty, N9FZX | "The National Anthem has become The Whine."
->paulf@Stanford.EDU | -- Charles Sykes, _A Nation of Victims_

Date: Wed, 7 Jul 1993 12:06:34 GMT
From: usc!howland.reston.ans.net!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!newsrelay.iastate.edu!
news.iastate.edu!IASTATE.EDU!wjturner@network.UCSD.EDU
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

References <1993Jul6.042454.7553@serval.net.wsu.edu>,
<1993Jul6.194631.9311@Csli.Stanford.EDU>, <21d3l4INNpkq@topaz.bds.com>/
Reply-To : wjturner@IASTATE.EDU (William J Turner)
Subject : Re: Give a VE \$5.60, walk out with a ham license...

In article <21d3l4INNpkq@topaz.bds.com>, ron@topaz.bds.com (Ron Natalie)

writes:

> > Secondly, the waiting period serves a very useful purpose. It forces a
> > new licensee to *listen* to the practice of amateur radio before they can
> > transmit, in order to learn how it's done.
>
> It does no such thing. They're just as likely to not bother to even buy
> a radio until after their license comes in the mail. I would venture that
> most people who would listen before their license came are also the sort
> to have listened before they took the test. And there are certainly a large
> portion of amateurs who have been licensed ffor years and still don't know
> "how it's done."

I agree!!

--

Will Turner, NORDV	-----
wjturner@iastate.edu	"Are you going to have any professionalism,
twp77@isuvax.iastate.edu	or am I going to have to beat it into you?"
TURNERW@vaxld.ameslab.gov	-----

End of Ham-Policy Digest V93 #219
